

Disaster Resistant University

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Chief of Police
Virginia State University



Building a Disaster Resistant University

PREVENT

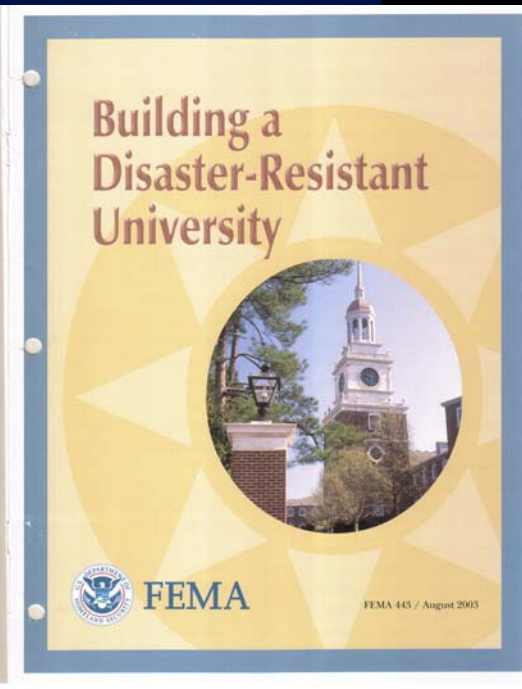
Injury and Death

Damage to University Assets

Monetary Losses

Disruption of Teaching, Research,
Public Service

Departure of Faculty and Students



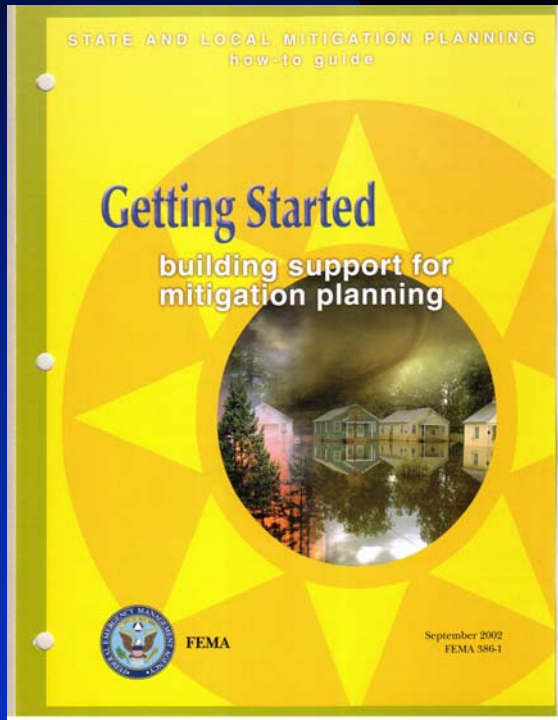
Getting Started

Make Commitment

Decision-makers must be committed

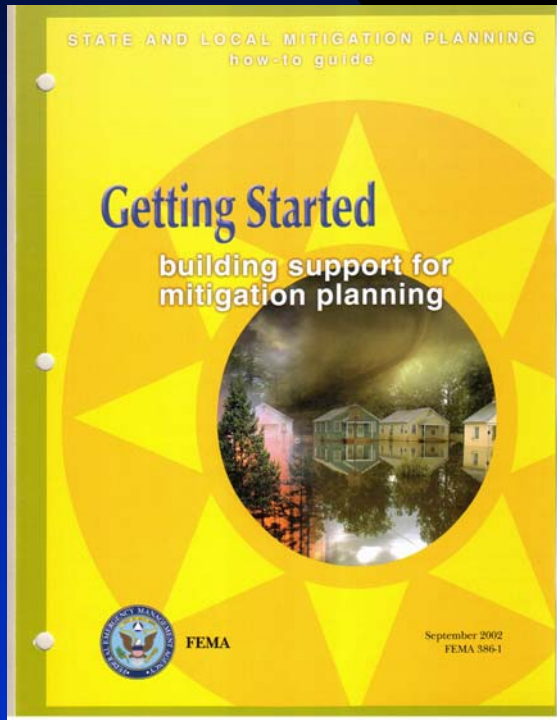
Resources

Everyone involved must commit
Resources



Getting Started

Form Advisory Committee



51 members of the Committee

- 26 Departments
- All Cabinet Members
- Provost
- VP, Finance & Admn
- VP, Development
- VP, HR
- Chief of Staff

Getting Started

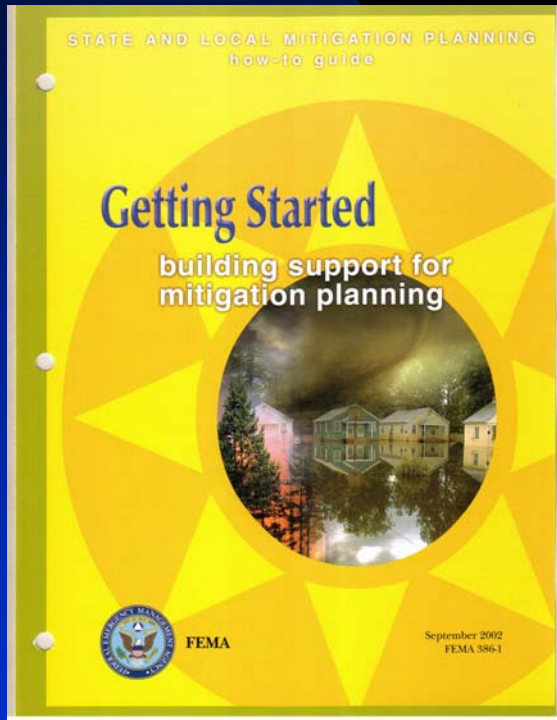
Select a Project Coordinator

Police?

Fire?

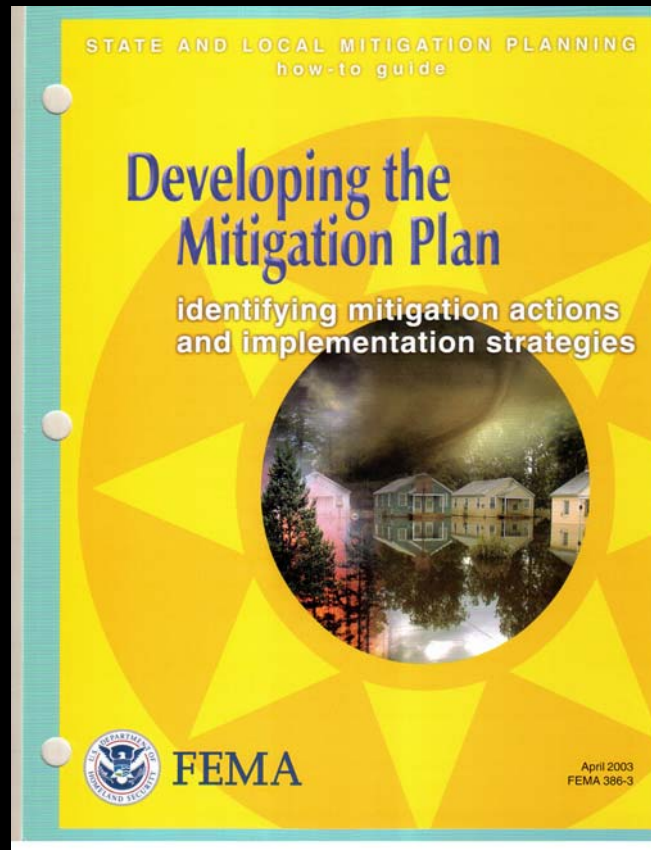
Safety Officer?

Emergency Management
Coordinator?



Developing the Mitigation Plan

4 Basic Steps



4 BASIC STEPS

the hazard mitigation planning process

Hazard mitigation planning is the process of determining how to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property damage resulting from natural and human-caused hazards. As shown in this diagram, the hazard mitigation planning process consists of four basic phases.

For illustration purposes, this diagram portrays a process that appears to proceed sequentially. However, the mitigation planning process is rarely a linear process. It is not unusual that ideas developed while assessing risks should need revision and additional information while developing the mitigation plan, or that implementing the plan may result in new goals or additional risk assessment.

organize resources

From the start, communities should focus on the resources needed for a successful mitigation planning process. Essential steps include identifying and organizing interested members of the community as well as the technical expertise required during the planning process.



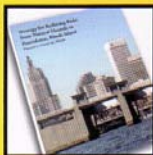
assess risks

Next, communities need to identify the characteristics and potential consequences of hazards. It is important to understand how much of the community can be affected by specific hazards and what the impacts would be on important community assets.



develop a mitigation plan

Armed with an understanding of the risks posed by hazards, communities need to determine what their priorities should be and then look at possible ways to avoid or minimize the undesired effects. The result is a hazard mitigation plan and strategy for implementation.



implement the plan and monitor progress

Communities can bring the plan to life in a variety of ways ranging from implementing specific mitigation projects to changes in the day-to-day operation of the local government. To ensure the success of an on-going program, it is critical that the plan remains relevant. Thus, it is important to conduct periodic evaluations and make revisions as needed.



Organize Resources

Assess Risks

Develop Mitigation Plan

Implement Plan, Monitor Progress

foreword

STATE AND LOCAL MITIGATION PLANNING how-to guide: **Developing the Mitigation Plan**

of Police and Public
Safety

VSU Executive Summary

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of the Plan

Disasters can impact universities in a multitude of ways. In addition to the damage to the physical plant, daily operations may be disrupted for a day to weeks or months. These disruptions can negatively impact research activities, causing a loss of future funding and, if severe enough, may lead students or faculty to leave the institution, causing a loss of educational continuity for students.

This plan represents the first in a series of proactive steps on the part of Virginia State University to reduce the impact of disasters and to avoid future losses and disruption. The plan will help to guide the campus in making better land use and development decisions for new buildings, facilities, and utilities, as well as in the renovation of existing buildings and development.

The Virginia State University Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies the hazards that may affect the university, and assesses campus buildings' vulnerability to these hazards. Mitigation strategies have been developed and prioritized to address the vulnerabilities identified in the plan. The plan also includes an assessment of the university's existing capabilities to implement a hazard mitigation plan. The plan concludes with implementation and maintenance procedures.

Planning Process

Virginia State University was one of thirty-one universities to receive funding under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Fiscal Year 2003 Disaster Resistant University program. Virginia State University modeled its planning process on the *Building a Disaster-Resistant University* guide published in August 2003 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The process included:

- Convening a University Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from various university administrative departments, academic departments, student organizations and the local community. The committee worked with a consultant throughout the process to develop the mitigation plan.
- Developing a university profile and capability assessment to determine existing capabilities.
- Gathering and analyzing information on past and potential future impacts of hazards on the university.
- Creating goals and mitigation strategies to address the risks and vulnerabilities identified in the planning process.
- The University Relations and Student Affairs offices organized community forums to publicize the work of the University Advisory Committee and gather input from a broad group of stakeholders.

Finalize Project

- Outreach
- VDEM Approval
- FEMA Approval
- Adopt and Implement Report
- Monitor Progress